



Hon. John G. Connor

June 24, 1931 - October 4, 2021

In love and in sorrow, we mourn the loss of Judge John G. Connor of Hudson, New York, who passed away peacefully on October 4, 2021, at the age of 90. Born June 24, 1931, in Albany, John was a devoted and loving family man, a gifted attorney, and a justice who dutifully served for more than two decades on New York State's Supreme Court.

A graduate of Philmont High School, he pitched a no-hitter for the baseball team his senior year and graduated in the top eleven of his class. John attended St. Michael's College and served two years in the U.S. Army before graduating from Albany Law School in 1957. Upon passing the Bar, he formed the legal firm Connor, Millman & Connor with his father, which later became Connor, Curran, Connor, Flint & Schram.

Prior to his tenure on the bench for the State of New York, highlights to John's early legal career include being the first Democrat elected District Attorney in Columbia County in over a century and serving as the Village Attorney for the Village of Philmont for many years. He was President of the Columbia County Bar Association from 1980 to 1983, a member of the Board of Trustees of Columbia-Greene Community College from 1980 to 1986, and a member of the Knights of Columbus, the American Legion, and the Hudson Elks Club. Professionally, John was best known for serving as a Supreme Court Justice for New York's 3rd District following his election in 1982 and reelection in 1996. He served with consistency and with compassion for 24 years until his retirement in 2006. Following his retirement from the bench, he practiced law

with his son, John Jr., at the firm Connor & Connor. John spent much of his legal career as an advocate for the downtrodden and the underdogs.

Known for his infectious laugh and sense of humor, John was beloved in the community. He was a skilled pianist, an ardent Democrat, a diehard fan of the Boston Red Sox, and a lifelong learner who never ceased to be determined to take on new hobbies, learn new instruments, or master the newest Apple products. He loved politics, investing, and traveling the world with Joan, his travel partner of more than 70 years.

John is predeceased by his parents, Judge William E.J. and Mildred Connor, and sisters, Patricia Murphy and Eileen Clark.

He is survived by his high school sweetheart and wife of 64 years, Joan Connor, as well as his children, John "Jack" (Anne) Connor Jr., James "Jimmy" (Darcy) Connor, and Jennifer (Tim) Shumsky; his grandchildren, Emily Connor, Allison (Mike) Konderwich, Brendan Connor, Caroline Connor, TJ Shumsky, Jameson Connor, and Lexi Shumsky; and his great-granddaughter Ella Konderwich. He is also survived by his siblings, William Connor and Marylou (John) McCall, and several nieces, nephews, and dear friends, including Cleveland Samuels.

Visitation hours will be held at Bates & Anderson-Redmond & Keeler Funeral Home (Green Street, Hudson) on Thursday, October 7 from 5 to 7 pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated from St. Mary's Church at 10:30 am on Friday, October 8. Masks and vaccines are required for both events.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Salvation Army of Hudson (PO Box 746 Hudson, NY 12534), a charity near to John's heart.

Previous Events

Visitation Hours

OCT 7. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Bates & Anderson - Redmond & Keeler
110 Green Street
Hudson, NY 12534
(518) 828-3371
<http://batesandersonredmondkeeler.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT 8. 10:30 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity St. Mary's Parish Hudson

Tribute Wall

JN

“ Judge Connor was an immeasurable part of my life. As a young attorney he gave me a unique opportunity to serve as his confidential law clerk in Supreme Court. While I knew it was a rare opportunity, what I did not know at the time was what a life experience he would provide. Judge Connor showed me that while wielding a position of power to do so fairly, justly and compassionately was a great responsibility to all who came before him. He also taught me that no matter how difficult, or mundane, the subject matter before the Court, that responsibility never changed, never waned. He also showed me the invaluable ability to retain a sense a humor throughout whatever was before the Court, to always take whatever was before the Court with the utmost sincerity, but never take yourself too seriously. I hope to never forget the caricatured imitations he did of various people in the judiciary, the members of the bar and the community. Every day working for the Judge was the rare opportunity to work with him, enjoy his infectious sense of humor, and learn invaluable lessons he taught by just being himself.

Judge, as now a jurist myself, I often try to emulate what you are as a person and a Judge but I do not believe I, nor anyone else, can measure up to the standard you set.

Rest well, your imprint on this community is forever. Jon Nichols.

Jonathan Nichols - October 07, 2021 at 03:46 PM

MA

“ B and A. I neglected to put my last name, Bartolotta, on the memory I just shared. Please add it. Thanks.

Mary - October 06, 2021 at 04:07 PM

MA

“ In 1985, I decided to get my real estate license. Sadly, I became licensed with a not well thought of firm in Greene County. John was a friend of my father's, who had passed away in 1965, and fellow member of the K of C. It was impossible for me to get listings in Columbia County. John's father, William E.J. Connor, passed away in that year and John listed his father's home in Germantown with me. Boom!!! That put me on the map in Columbia County real estate. Many seasoned Brokers remarked to me, "How did you ever get that listing?" From then on, I made my way in Columbia County real estate, but it never would have happened if John had not given me that "prestigious" listing. From that day forward John and Joan, who Phil ready knew, became friends enjoying watching our kids grow up together at Clover Reach and make their way, successfully, in today's world.
THANK YOU, John!!! Rest in Peace, my friend.

Mary - October 06, 2021 at 04:04 PM

PL

“ Paul and Joan Layer were so sorry to hear of John's passing. Our sympathy to Joan and the family. A friend for many years

Paul and Joan Layer - October 06, 2021 at 02:07 PM